

## MEPHITIS OCCIDENTALIS HOLZNERI, new subspecies.

## SAN DIEGO SKUNK.

*Type*.—No.  $\frac{8965}{6422}$ , American Museum of Natural History, New York; collected July 3, 1894, at San Isidro Ranch, Lower California, by Frank X. Holzner. Original number, 1554.

*Description of type*.—Similar to *Mephitis occidentalis* Baird, but smaller. Skull, with mastoids much less prominent, and intermastoid breadth, consequently, relatively much less. The length of the palatal floor and rostral portion of skull are relatively greater, this being correlated with the greater distance of the palate from the foramen magnum. Mastoid bulla much smaller, but more prominent. The length of the lateral tooth-row and breadth across molars are relatively greater, the dentition being heavier. The foramen magnum is smaller and more nearly spherical. Color black, with the usual longitudinal white stripe on the upper surface of the head. The white dorsal area begins broadly just back of the ears, forms a triangular patch on the nape, bifurcates well forward, and extends backward as two narrow white stripes which are continued on to the sides of the tail and meet about the middle of its upper surface. The rest of the caudal hair is white at base and black at tip. Under surface of body wholly black. Length, 665 mm.; tail to end of vertebrae, 273; tail to end of hairs, 360; ear from crown, 13.5; length of hind foot, 72.

